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week with them, until full employment may arise for the whole.

Died... On the 26th inst. at Lisburn, WILLIAM SMITH, Collector of Armagh, and for many years Agent to the Marquis of Hertford. Indiscriminate praise alike lavishly bestowed on the deserving, and on the undeserving, has brought merited disgrace too generally on Newspaper encomiums. It is hoped that our pages will never be prostituted to unappropriate and unearned praise. In the present case, it may be allowed to say, with the strictest truth, that William Smith was a man of singular integrity, inflexible adherence to his word, and of strict honour and honesty. In his arduous employment, as agent to an extensive absentee estate, he sedulously attended to the interests of his employer, without bearing hard on the tenantry. He eminently proved, that real worth of character greatly outweighs those little defects which may occasionally break out in unguarded sallies of temper. How far he had engaged the esteem of those who knew him, was evinced by the anxious inquiries during his illness, and by the general regret evinced on his death.

Comparative statement of the Population of Great Britain in the years 1801 and 1811; ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 17th Jan. 1812:—

POPULATION, 1801.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.
England . . .	3,987,935	4,343,499	8,331,434
Wales . . .	257,178	284,308	541,546
Scotland . .	734,581	864,487	1,599,088
Army, Navy, &c.	470,598	. . .	470,598
	5,450,292	5,492,354	10,942,646
POPULATION, 1811.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.
England . . .	4,555,257	4,944,143	9,499,400
Wales . . .	289,414	317,966	607,380
Scotland . .	825,377	979,487	1,804,864
Army, Navy, &c.	640,500	. . .	640,500
Total . . .	6,310,548	6,241,596	12,552,144
INCREASE.			
England	1,167,966		
Wales	65,834		
Scotland	208,180		
Army, Navy, &c. .	169,902		
Total	1,611,882		

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE memorial of the Magistrates and Linen-drappers of Belfast and Lisburn has produced an order from the trustees of the linen and hempen manufactures, that their county Inspectors shall once a month affix, in some conspicuous place, in every town in their district, where a linen-market is held, a list of the fines imposed or levied during the preceding month. A copy of the form is subjoined. If this regulation is strictly followed up, good effects may be expected to follow. But laws and regulations will not execute themselves. It rests on those interested in the welfare of the linen-trade, to see that the inspectors comply with the letter and spirit of this salutary regulation. It is too common an error to rest satisfied with obtaining a good law, and then immediately to relax in the exertions to have it carried into effect. Linen-drappers were long ago denominated by the old Earl of Hillsborough, a rope of sand. They have not lost the characteristic, and in this trade, as well as in others, the public good is often neglected through the indolence and selfishness of the majority of those engaged in it. The publicity required by this return, will have a powerful tendency to produce honesty. It will check the rapacity of public officers, if they should be more solicitous to derive a source of private emolument from the continuance of frauds, rather than to eradicate them completely, and the dread of public exposure may be likely to operate on the seal-master to keep him honest in the essential discharge of his duty, while at the same time he will be protected against undue advantage being taken of any unintentional and trifling inaccuracies, which may happen to escape him. Magistrates are especially called upon not to listen to any complaint on ex-parte evidence, or to take the word of an inspector, without judicial and strict examination. Instances have occurred, in which warrants have been signed in large numbers at a time, without the smallest examination, and the word of a public officer has been the only evidence adduced to procure conviction. Magistrates should also exercise the discretionary power vested in them, in most cases, in determining according to circumstances, the amount of

the fines levied. Heavy fines occasionally levied may suit the rapacity or indolence of the complainant, but they often operate as a licence to seal-masters to continue a systematic practising of frauds. Seal-masters often consider when they have paid the fines, that these fines are a compensation for liberty to go on in the old course. Smaller fines frequently levied, would produce less encouragement to continue frauds, while every fresh instance was almost certain of detection. Certainty is better than severity of punishment. It becomes a matter of calculation how long a culprit can escape by the payment of a fine, and he may find it his interest to pay a large fine once a year, by way of composition, to go on, rather than to be strictly honest in the observance of his duties.

The commercial distresses of England do not seem to abate. Among the Public Occurrences, at page 74, will be found an affecting representation of the state of distress in Liverpool. The riots at Nottingham, and through a considerable extent of the surrounding country, continue. Evils are not beneficially corrected by other evils. Combination and riots injure a country, and those engaged in them, even if the parties have just causes of complaint. They now allege one grievance which certainly requires to be speedily remedied. As it has gained some ground in the cotton-trade in this country, it may not be amiss to turn attention to it. It is the practice of PAYING WEAVERS IN PART FOR THEIR WORK IN GOODS. Such a mode is a great inlet to frauds on the part of the employers, and as it is contrary to law, should be strictly resisted. But this resistance is much more suitably conducted by a legal complaint to magistrates, than through riots and combinations, by the aggrieved taking redress into their own hands. The practice of paying in goods instead of money is staking the superior skill of the employer against the ignorance of the weaver, who generally is not a judge of the value of the commodity. He is often forced to take articles of which he does not stand in need, and of an inferior quality, laid in at a proportionate low price, but sold to the weaver as if of the best quality. These articles he is often compelled to leave in the office of the pawn-broker at a heavy loss. Let the bargain be made between manufacturer and weaver on such terms as they can agree, according to the state and fluctuation of the trade. But let the workman be paid in cash. Justice demands the punctual fulfilment of this indispensibly necessary stipulation, for a departure from it leads to great frauds.

Manufactures in the American United States are making a rapid progress, aided by the political situation of that country with Europe. The full extent of the American market for British and Irish manufactures, is already irrecoverably lost, and if an open rupture takes place, America will become still more independent of foreign trade, which will not be likely to be regained, even on the return of peace. Spanish sheep, which have been imported into North America in large flocks, thrive well, and with the increase of their native sheep, have laid a solid foundation for an extensive and increasing domestic manufacture of woollens. Linen and cotton goods are also extensively manufactured, and such are the improvements in machinery, and the demand for fresh places on which to erect it, that water-falls are rapidly appropriating, and have greatly risen in value.

The state of the market for American produce in general was latterly materially changed in Liverpool, owing, in some measure, to that partial suspension of the demand usually experienced about the end of the year; but in a still greater degree to the adjustment of the affair of the Chesapeake, which was supposed to give a more favourable aspect to the pending negotiations. Under these circumstances, speculation ceased, the demand from the consumers also became extremely limited, and a reduction in the value of some articles followed as a necessary consequence. During this depression, Cotton declined about 1d. per lb., Turpentine 2s. per cwt., and Tar 3s. per barrel. The late intelligence from America, containing the report of the Committee upon the state of Foreign relations, has, however, rather revived the market; but the only article in which a decided improvement has yet taken place, is Cotton, which in some cases has been sold at an advance of fully $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. As to future prospects, it is difficult to form any opinion, so much will depend on the nature of the proceedings which may hereafter be adopted, either by the British or American government. It appears, that the importations of 1811 into Liverpool, have been about 174,000 bags, which fall short of the receipts of 1810, by nearly 146,000 bags. For the last three months, the actual consumption has been materially increased, while, on the other hand, the diminution of supplies has been so very considerable, that the stock now

cannot be rated above 130,000 bags, which is rather less than what remained on hand at the same period last year. Taking, however, the aggregate of what is held in the several ports of Great Britain, which is estimated at 340,000 bags, there is an increase of 27,000 bags upon the stock at the end of 1810.

While the old and accustomed channels of commerce are likely to be diverted through the pernicious regulations of our rulers in pertinaciously persisting in their orders in council, public attention has been turned towards the East Indies. The charter of the East India company unless renewed, is to expire in 1814, and many are of the judgment, that their monopoly should be done away, and the trade left open to individual enterprise. The Americans have long had a profitable trade with that country and China, and afford a practical refutation to an antiquated maxim, that this trade could only be carried on through the means of a chartered company. It remains to be seen, what measures will be taken by Parliament in the present session. But it is difficult to anticipate much wisdom in the decision, as political considerations too often supersede the dictates of sound policy. The preponderating influence of East Indian wealth, accumulated in the hands of individuals, although the company is decidedly bankrupt, and high-raised and unsubstantial visions of a mighty Empire in the East will be likely to bear strongly on the decision. High-sounding phrases, on a subject not generally well understood, will be introduced in an attempt to continue the monopoly of power in the hands of the company, in a kind of co-partnership with the executive government, through the board of control; and East India influence in the political scale, either for or against a minister, will have some weight, so long as the borough-mongery system continues, and wealth can purchase seats among these calling themselves the representatives of the people. If sound policy, unswayed by those adventitious circumstances, were to prevail, there is reason to expect, that the trade would be thrown open, and much national benefit result from the measure.

The failure of the extensive banking house of Boldero, Boldero and Lushington, in London, has been followed by failures of some of the country banks. Trade has again received a very severe shock, and this failure has added considerably to the already existing distress in the commercial circles in England. In many branches sales are at a stand, owing to the want of confidence arising from the shock credit has received from this failure.

Exchange on London has through this month mostly averaged from $7\frac{1}{4}$ to $7\frac{3}{4}$ per ct. The premium on gold is about 3s. 4d. per guinea.

Writers who occasionally in the Belfast News-papers complain of the discount charged by Landlords, do not appear to take into the account, the difference between bank-notes passing from hand to hand, as a medium in recent transactions, and their being accepted as payment for rent and other debts due on old contracts. When many of these engagements were made, coin was the only circulating medium, or even as to lands set latterly it was still the customary mode of payment for rent in this part of the country. If Landlords and other creditors under old contracts, accept of bank notes without some reasonable compensation, they submit to incur all the loss sustained by the depreciation of the paper money, and tenants ought to consider that the high prices which they have been receiving for several years past, for the produce of land, is owing in great measure to a rise produced by the over-abundant issue of paper. Money as a circulating medium, and acting only as a representative of property, has a relative proportion to prices. When money is scarce, and consequently dear, prices fall; in the reverse if by substituting paper for coin, uncontrolled by obligations to pay in specie, the circulating medium becomes too plentiful, prices of articles will rise, as we have seen since 1797, the period of the bank restriction. Almost every article of consumption in a family is raised so as in many instances to render the rise in rents, and the discount charged in lieu of gold insufficient to compensate for the increased expenditure of the landlord. In such a situation, it would be unreasonable, as some writers require, that landlords should have no compensation, nor are the inferences fairly drawn, that if they get a discount in lieu of gold, they should make a like allowance on all their payments in recent transactions. They already pay a higher price than before 1797 for all the produce of land, which they consume, and to assist to defray this additional expenditure have only to look to the rise on lands, and a moderate discount on payments to them in a depreciated currency, which depreciation was not contemplated by either parties at the period of making the contract.

